

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 SSO-00

INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /044 W

----- 030221

O P 291642Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3507

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 8138

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, EC

SUBJECT: CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) QUITO 8001 B) QUITO 8130

1. ALTHOUGH WE MIGHT WISH THAT DAC SUAREZ' THANKSGIVING DAY LETTER TO BRANIFF HAD EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED BRANIFF TO REINSTATE ITS JULY 1 SCHEDULE AS OF A CERTAIN DATE, EMBASSY NEVERTHELESS BELIEVES THAT LETTER AS WRITTEN IS A VALID CONFIRMATION OF THE VERBAL AGREEMENT OF NOVEMBER 22 TO REINSTATE THE CANCELLED BRANIFF FLIGHTS. WE THINK THAT DELAY IN ITS ISSUANCE WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SUAREZ' DIFFICULT TEMPERAMENT.

2. WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATIONS AND CONCURRENCE OF EMBASSY, BRANIFF RESPONDED TO SUAREZ' LETTER IMMEDIATELY ON NOVEMBER 28. AT DALLAS' (MCCORMICK) DIRECTION AND FYI AGAINST THE ADVICE OF BRANIFF VICE PRESIDENT IN GUAYAQUIL AND BRANIFF MANAGER IN QUITO, BRANIFF RESPONSE ASKS FOR AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE THE NEW SCHEDULE FROM DECEMBER 1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT BRANIFF IS LEANING HARDER THAN IS DESIRABLE OR NECESSARY AND RECOMMENDS THAT USG NOT TAKE UP THIS CAUSE AS ITS OWN. AFTER ALL, NONE OF THESE FLIGHTS HAS BEEN SOLD IN ECUADOR YET NOR WILL BRANIFF OFFICES HERE SELL THEM UNTIL THEY ARE EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED.

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3. EMBASSY BELIEVES INSTEAD THAT WE SHOULD TRY TO EFFECT A

DECEMBER 5 IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR THE NEW SCHEDULES OF BOTH CARRIERS. FOREIGN MINISTRY SUBSECRETARY VALDEZ HAD SUGGESTED TO DCM ON NOVEMBER 22 THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE PLACED ON RECORD BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND EMBASSY. WE PROPOSE TO PURSUE THIS ROUTE WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND TO USE VEHICLE OF NOTE EXCHANGE TO PIN DOWN DECEMBER 5 AS EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW SCHEDULES FOR BRANIFF AND ECUATORIANA. EMBASSY WILL, OF COURSE, SUBMIT PROPOSED DRAFT NOTE TO DEPARTMENT FOR CONCURRENCE/COMMENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST THAT DEPARTMENT/CAB WITHDRAW FROM WHITE HOUSE THE RECOMMENDATION FOR DENIAL OF ECUATORIANA'S DECEMBER 5 SCHEDULE. PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY WHEN ACTION TAKEN.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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